



Remarks

Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 and 13-14 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,219,942 and also over claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,365,623. Examiner has rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶1 for failure to comply with the written description requirement due to use of the term "preventing" in claim 1.

Examiner has allowed claims 16-19. By the foregoing amendment, claims 1-15 are cancelled, thus the only remaining claims are the allowed claims.

The Examiner has noted a defect in the Oath. A Supplemental Oath and Declaration signed by the Applicant is submitted herewith, which should resolve the Examiner's objection.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 16-19, all of the claims remaining in the application, are in order for allowance, and early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen P. McNamara, Registration No. 32,745
Helen M. Limoncelli, Registration No. 51,950
Attorneys for Applicant
ST. ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS LLC
986 Bedford Street
Stamford, CT 06905-5619
203 324-6155